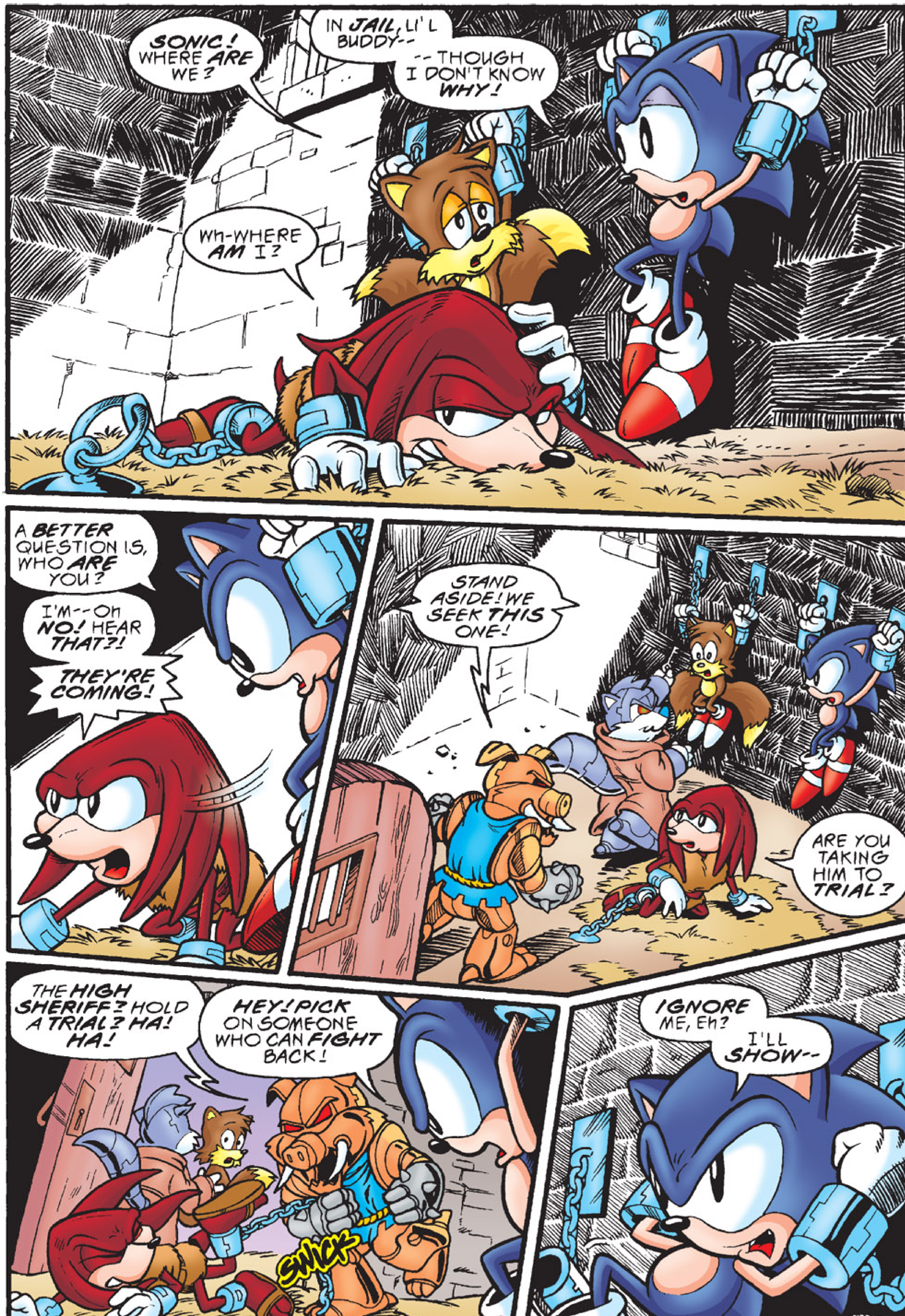
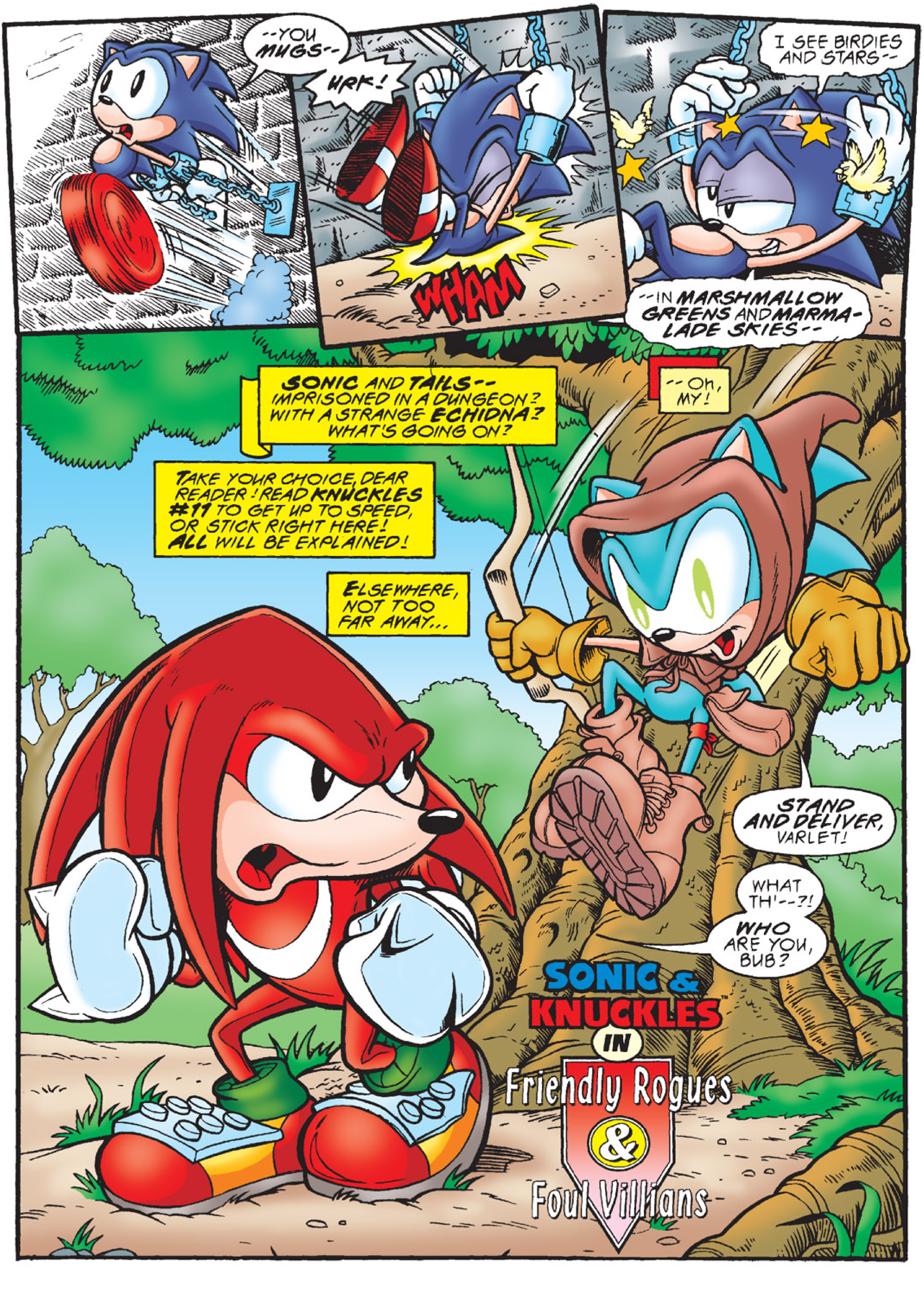
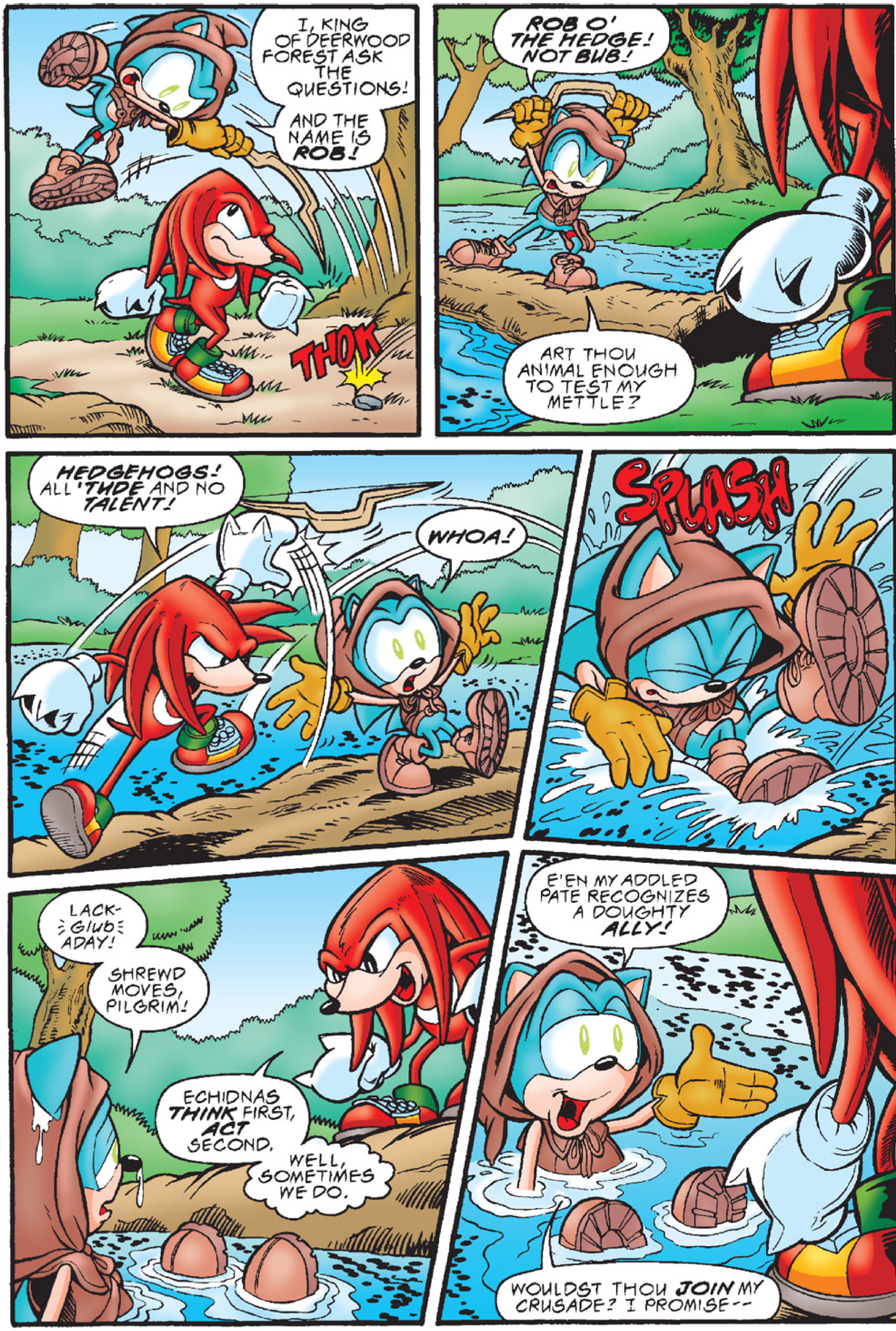

Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
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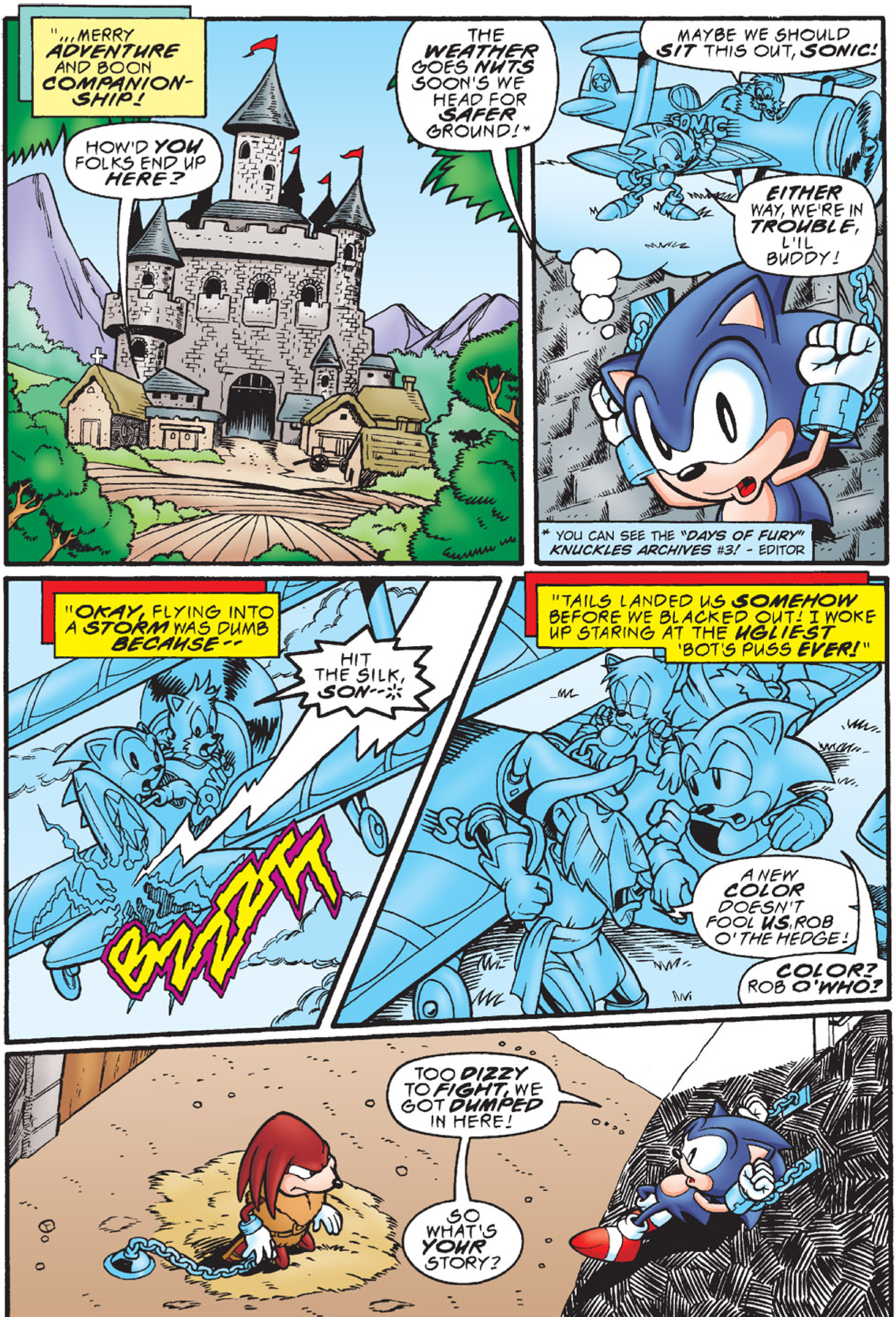


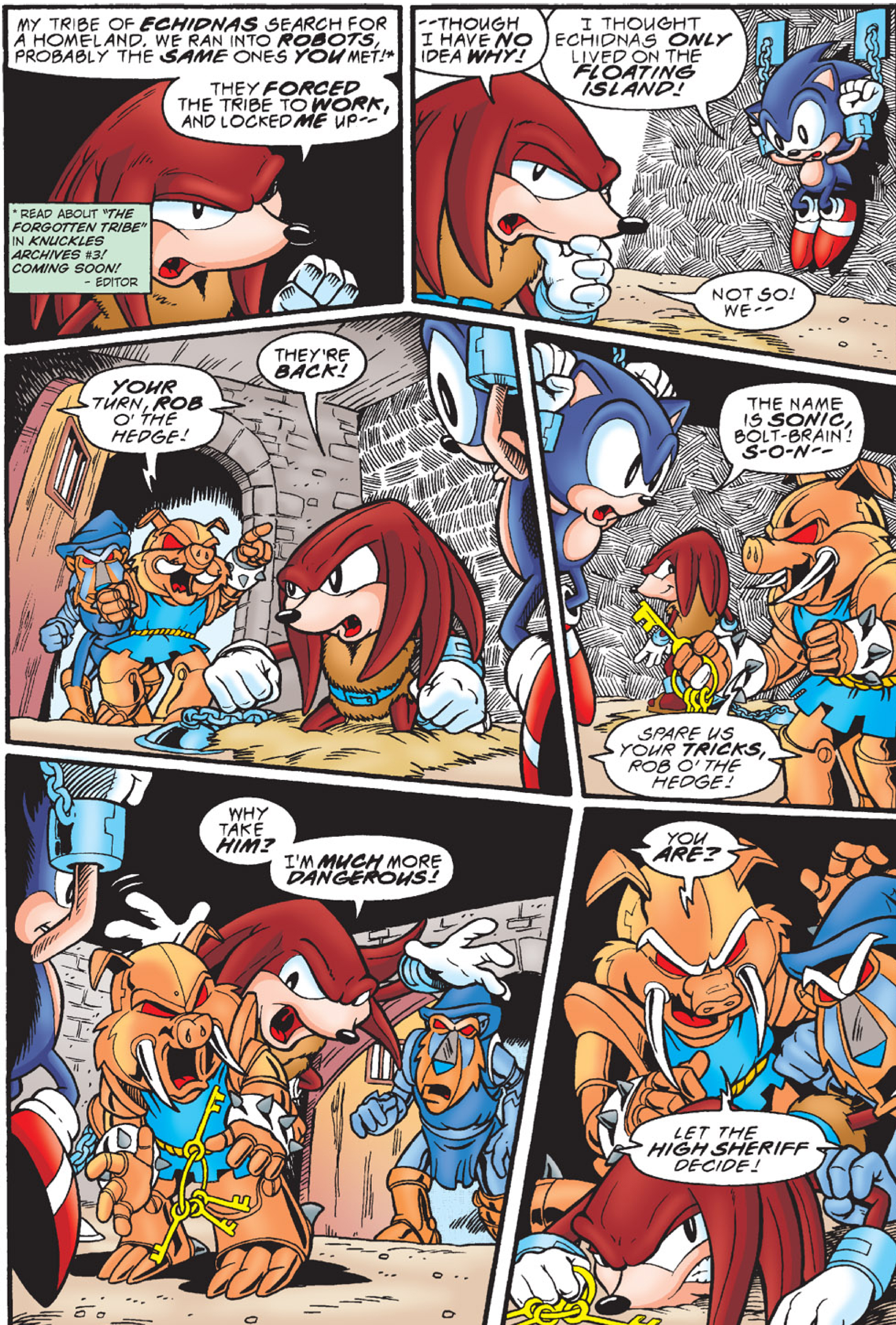
SONIC! WHERE ARE WE?
IN JAIL, LI'L BUDDY--
--THOUGH I DON'T KNOW WHY!
Wh-WHERE AM I?
A BETTER QUESTION IS, WHO ARE YOU?
I'M--Oh NO! HEAR THAT?!
THEY'RE COMING!
STAND ASIDE! WE SEEK THIS ONE!
ARE YOU TAKING HIM TO TRIAL?
THE HIGH SHERIFF? HOLD A TRIAL? HA! HA!
HEY! PICK ON SOMEONE WHO CAN FIGHT BACK!
SWICK
IGNORE ME, Eh?
I'LL SHOW--



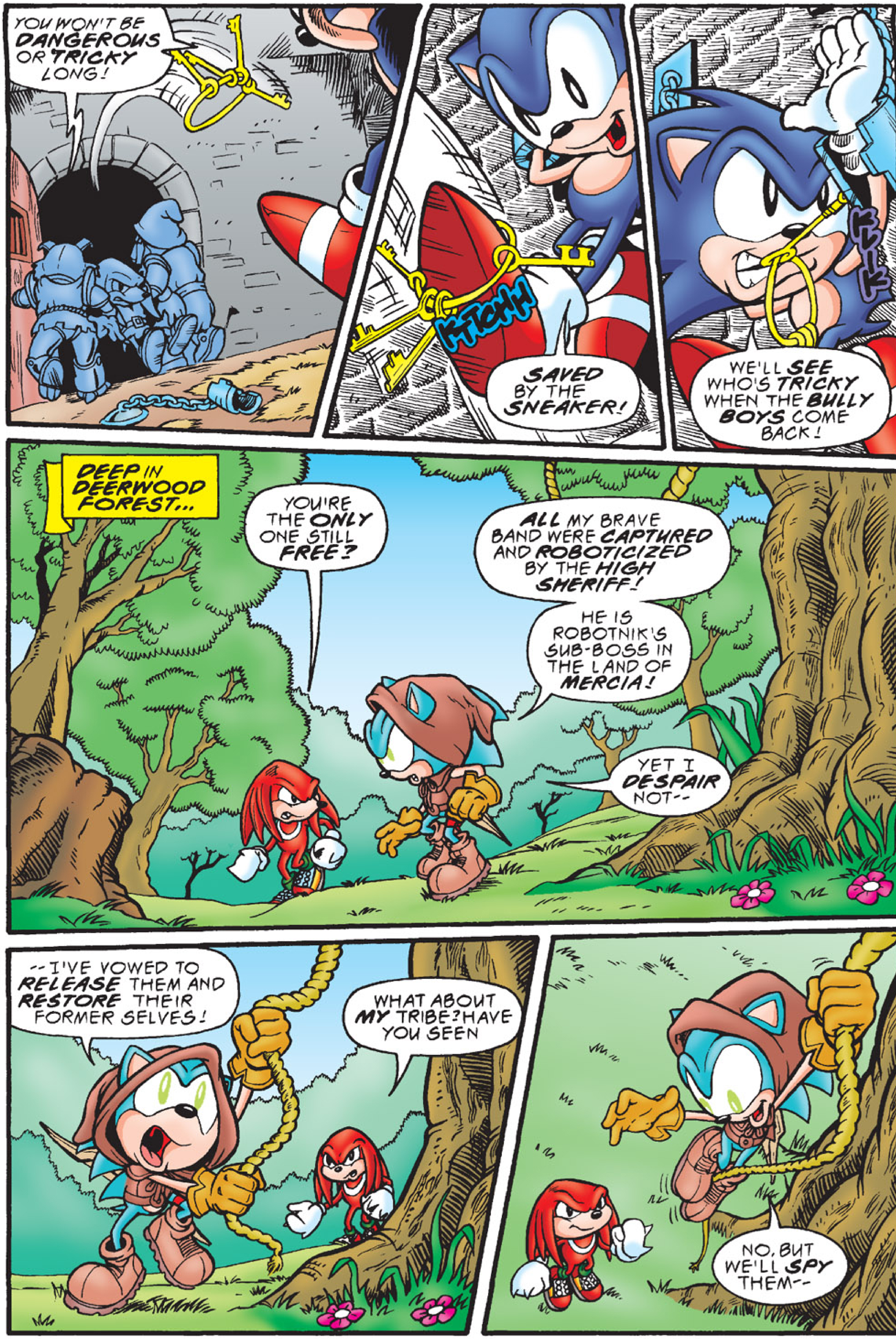
--YOU MUGS--
URK!
WHAM
I SEE BIRDIES AND STARS--
--IN MARSHMALLOW GREENS AND MARMALADE SKIES--
SONIC AND TAILS-- IMPRISONED IN A DUNGEON? WITH A STRANGE ECHIDNA? WHAT'S GOING ON?
TAKE YOUR CHOICE, DEAR READER! READ KNUCKLES #11 TO GET UP TO SPEED, OR STICK RIGHT HERE! ALL WILL BE EXPLAINED!
ELSEWHERE, NOT TOO FAR AWAY...
--OH, MY!
STAND AND DELIVER, VARLET!
WHAT TH'--?!
WHO ARE YOU, BUB?
SONIC & KNUCKLES IN
Friendly Rogues & Foul Villians

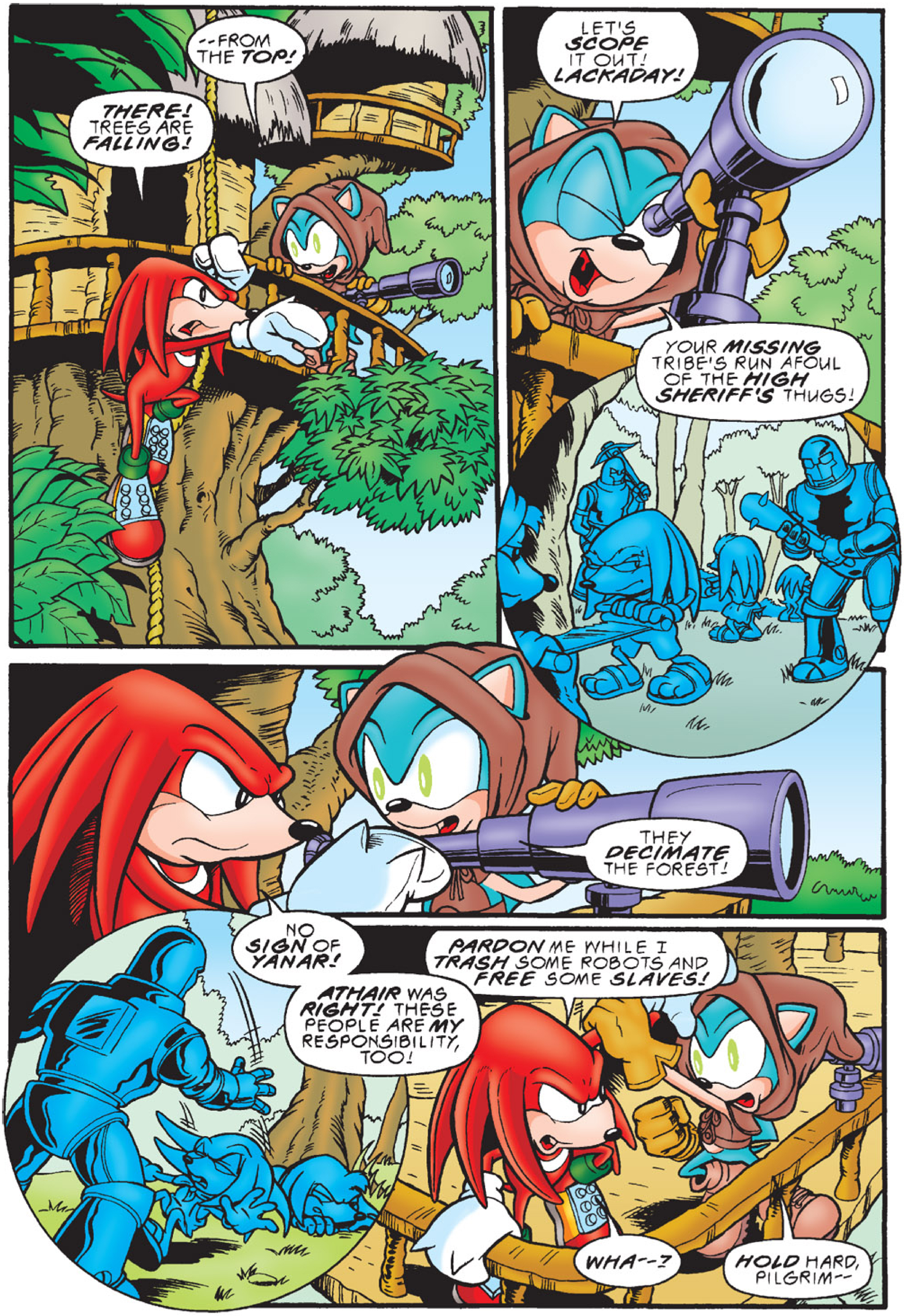

I, KING OF DEERWOOD FOREST ASK THE QUESTIONS!
AND THE NAME IS ROB!
THOK
ROB O' THE HEDGE! NOT BUB!
ART THOU ANIMAL ENOUGH TO TEST MY METTLE?
HEDGEHOGS! ALL 'TUDE AND NO TALENT!
WHOA!
SPLASH
LACK-GLUB-ADAY!
SHREWD MOVES, PILGRIM!
ECHIDNAS THINK FIRST, ACT SECOND.
WELL, SOMETIMES WE DO.
E'EN MY ADDLED PATE RECOGNIZES A DOUGHTY ALLY!
WOULDST THOU JOIN MY CRUSADE? I PROMISE--


"...MERRY ADVENTURE AND BOON COMPANIONSHIP!
HOW'D YOU FOLKS END UP HERE?
THE WEATHER GOES NUTS SOON'S WE HEAD FOR SAFER GROUND!*
MAYBE WE SHOULD SIT THIS OUT, SONIC!
SONIC
EITHER WAY, WE'RE IN TROUBLE, L'IL BUDDY!
* YOU CAN SEE THE "DAYS OF FURY" KNUCKLES ARCHIVES #3! - EDITOR
"OKAY, FLYING INTO A STORM WAS DUMB BECAUSE--
HIT THE SILK, SON--
SONIC
BZZZT
"TAILS LANDED US SOMEHOW BEFORE WE BLACKED OUT! I WOKE UP STARING AT THE UGLIEST 'BOT'S PUSS EVER!"
A NEW COLOR DOESN'T FOOL US, ROB O' THE HEDGE!
COLOR? ROB O'WHO?
TOO DIZZY TO FIGHT, WE GOT DUMPED IN HERE!
SO WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



MY TRIBE OF ECHIDNAS SEARCH FOR A HOMELAND. WE RAN INTO ROBOTS, PROBABLY THE SAME ONES YOU MET!*
THEY FORCED THE TRIBE TO WORK, AND LOCKED ME UP--
* READ ABOUT "THE FORGOTTEN TRIBE" IN KNUCKLES ARCHIVES #3! COMING SOON! - EDITOR
--THOUGH I HAVE NO IDEA WHY!
I THOUGHT ECHIDNAS ONLY LIVED ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!
NOT SO! WE--
YOUR TURN, ROB O' THE HEDGE!
THEY'RE BACK!
THE NAME IS SONIC, BOLT-BRAIN! S-O-N--
SPARE US YOUR TRICKS, ROB O' THE HEDGE!
WHY TAKE HIM?
I'M MUCH MORE DANGEROUS!
YOU ARE?
LET THE HIGH SHERIFF DECIDE!

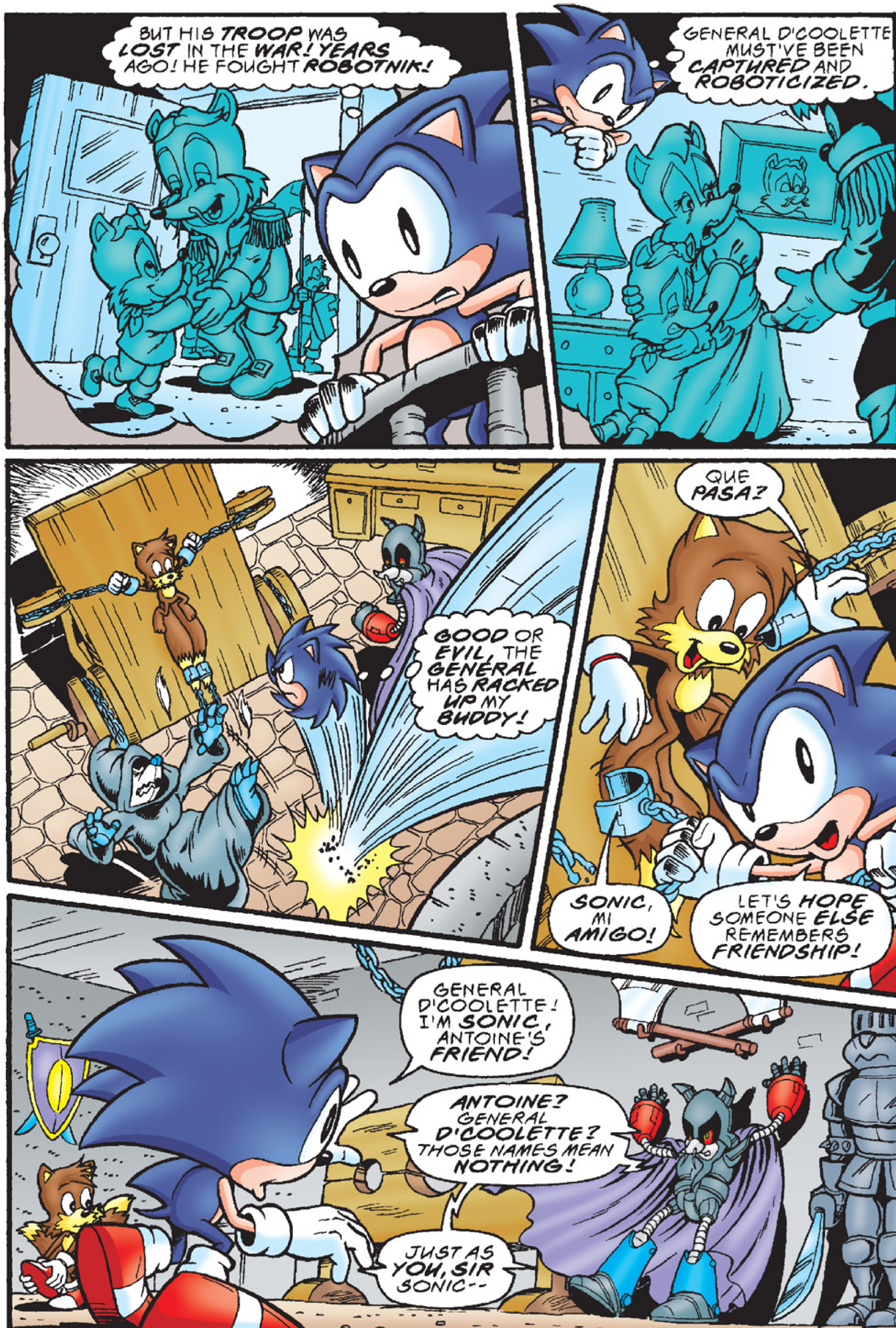

YOU WON'T BE DANGEROUS OR TRICKY LONG!
KTCHH
SAVED BY THE SNEAKER!
KLIK
WE'LL SEE WHO'S TRICKY WHEN THE BULLY BOYS COME BACK!
DEEP IN DEERWOOD FOREST...
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE STILL FREE?
ALL MY BRAVE BAND WERE CAPTURED AND ROBOTICIZED BY THE HIGH SHERIFF!
HE IS ROBOTNIK'S SUB-BOSS IN THE LAND OF MERCIA!
YET I DESPAIR NOT--
--I'VE VOWED TO RELEASE THEM AND RESTORE THEIR FORMER SELVES!
WHAT ABOUT MY TRIBE? HAVE YOU SEEN
NO, BUT WE'LL SPY THEM--


THERE! TREES ARE FALLING!
--FROM THE TOP!
LET'S SCOPE IT OUT! LACKADAY!
YOUR MISSING TRIBE'S RUN AFOUL OF THE HIGH SHERIFF'S THUGS!
THEY DECIMATE THE FOREST!
NO SIGN OF YANAR!
ATHAIR WAS RIGHT! THESE PEOPLE ARE MY RESPONSIBILITY, TOO!
PARDON ME WHILE I TRASH SOME ROBOTS AND FREE SOME SLAVES!
WHA--?
HOLD HARD, PILGRIM--


"...WE FIGHT TOGETHER!"
THE HIGH SHERIFF WANTS YOU NOW!
DOES HE?
FAIR ENOUGH! I WANT HIM!
?
TIME TO JUICE, GUYS--
WHAM
--AND BOY, IT FEELS GOOD!
BOOM
HASTA LA VISTA, FELLAS--
--ENJOY A SIESTA!
NOW TO FIND THE TAILSTER!
VRROOOOOM
DON'T NEED A ROAD MAP TO PUT THE PEDAL TO THE METAL--

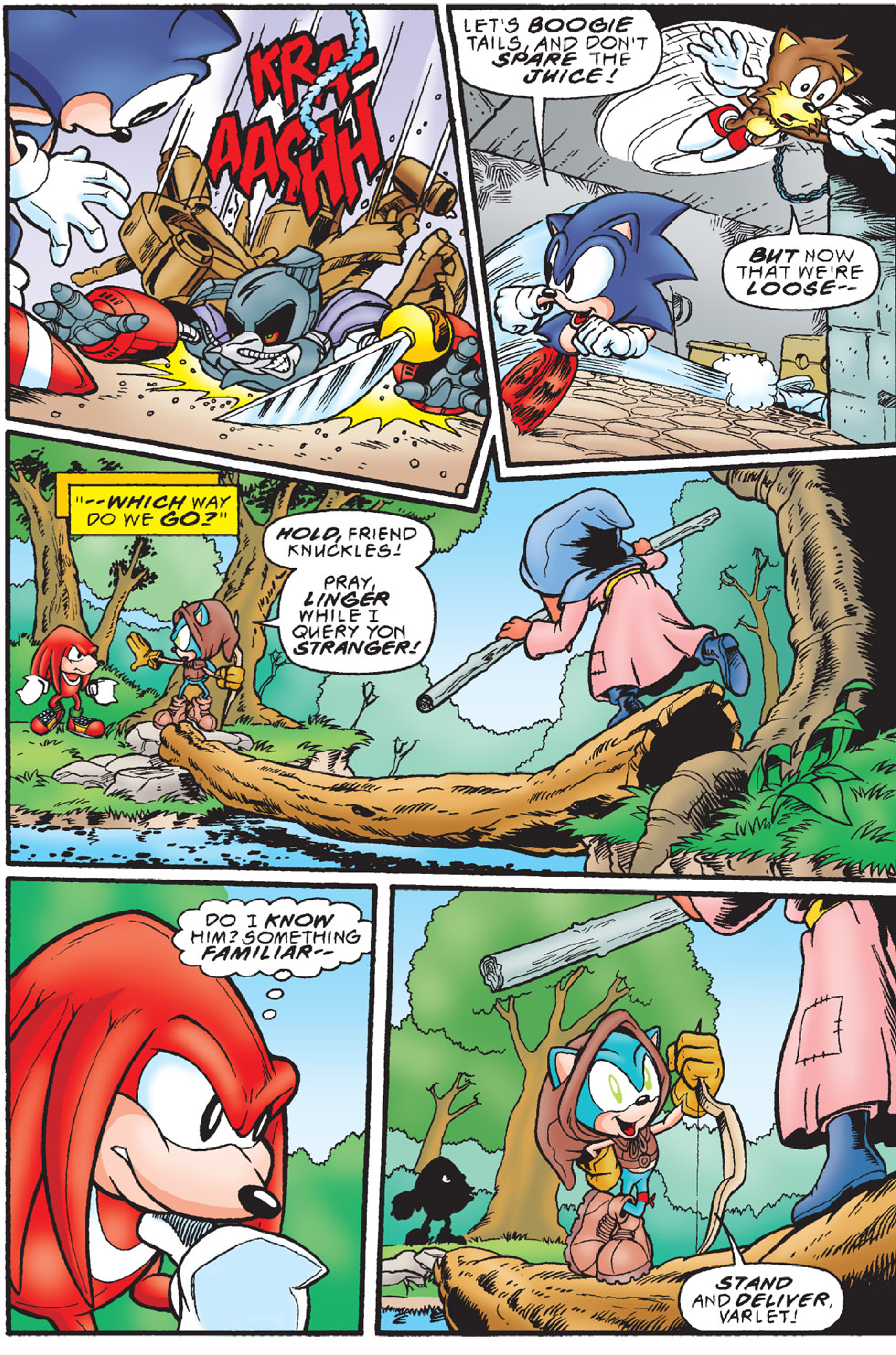


"--WE'LL BE OUT OF HERE LIKE ZIP-A-DEE-DOO-DAH!"
NO SANE ANIMALS VISIT SNOTTINGHAM! SO YOU LOT MUST BE SPIES!
WHOA! SPEAK OF THE 'BOTNIK!
SPEAK OR--
--SUFFER! CRANK IT TIGHTER, BODO!
NOT THAT! ANYTHING BUT THAT!
STOP IT! STOP--AHAHAHA!
HAHA--OKAY! I'LL--WHATEVER--HAHA! YOU WANT!
GOOD! WHO DO YOU SPY FOR?
OUR PLANE --HAHA!--WAS FORCED DOWN--BY A STORM! AHA! --THAT'S THE TRUTH!
POPPYCOCK! YOU'RE SCOUTS FROM MY ENEMIES! CONFESS!
IT CAN'T BE--!!
THE HIGH SHERIFF IS GENERAL D'COOLETTE!

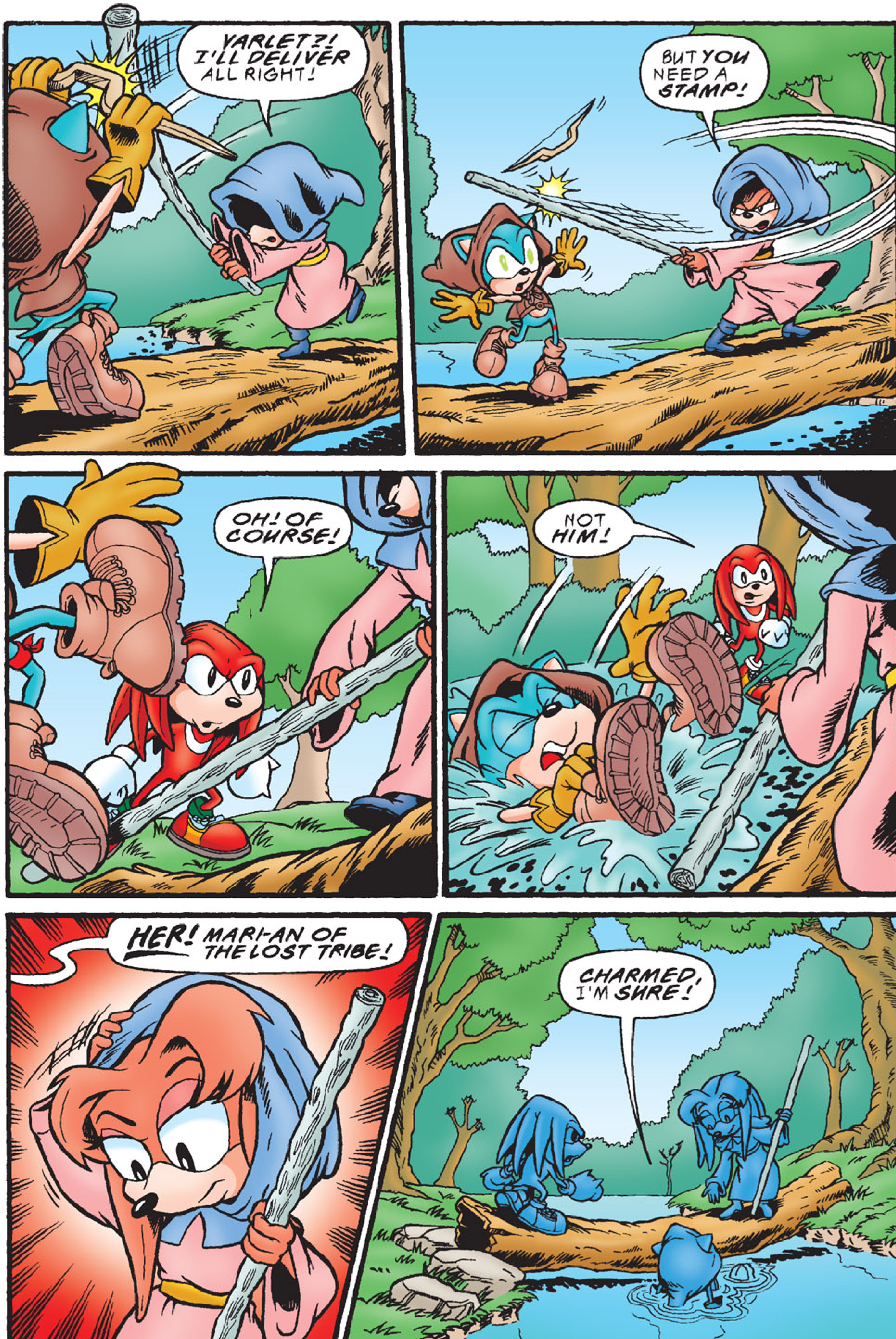

BUT HIS TROOP WAS LOST IN THE WAR! YEARS AGO! HE FOUGHT ROBOTNIK!
GENERAL D'COOLETTE MUST'VE BEEN CAPTURED AND ROBOTICIZED.
GOOD OR EVIL, THE GENERAL HAS RACKED UP MY BUDDY!
QUE PASA?
SONIC, MI AMIGO!
LET'S HOPE SOMEONE ELSE REMEMBERS FRIENDSHIP!
GENERAL D'COOLETTE! I'M SONIC, ANTOINE'S FRIEND!
ANTOINE? GENERAL D'COOLETTE? THOSE NAMES MEAN NOTHING!
JUST AS YOU, SIR SONIC--



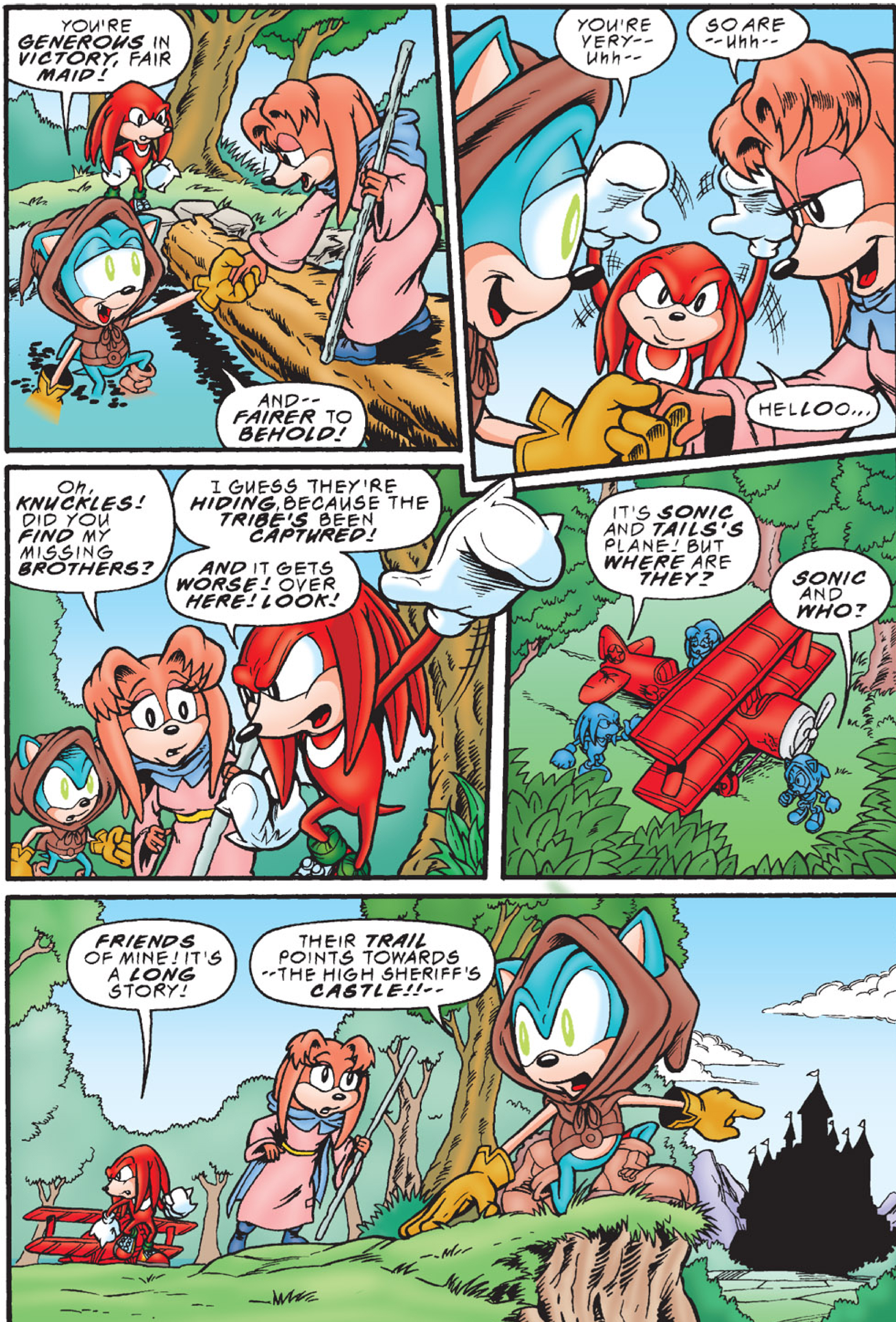
--WILL BE NOTHING!
YOU DON'T REMEMBER YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS?
I REMEMBER OWING MY LIEGE, DR. ROBOTNIK MY LIFE!
AND FROM YOU I NEED ONLY ABSOLUTE BLIND OBEDIENCE!
DO SOMETHING, SONIC!
I CAN'T HIT HIM, LI'L BUDDY! HE'S SICK!
SICK OF YOUR INSOLENCE!
I CAN SUMMON A HUNDRED GUARDS WITH ONE SHOUT! YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE THIS MAZE OF CORRIDORS!
SO SURRENDER--
--WHILE YOU STILL CAN!
NAH! IT CAN'T BE THAT EASY--
--CAN IT?



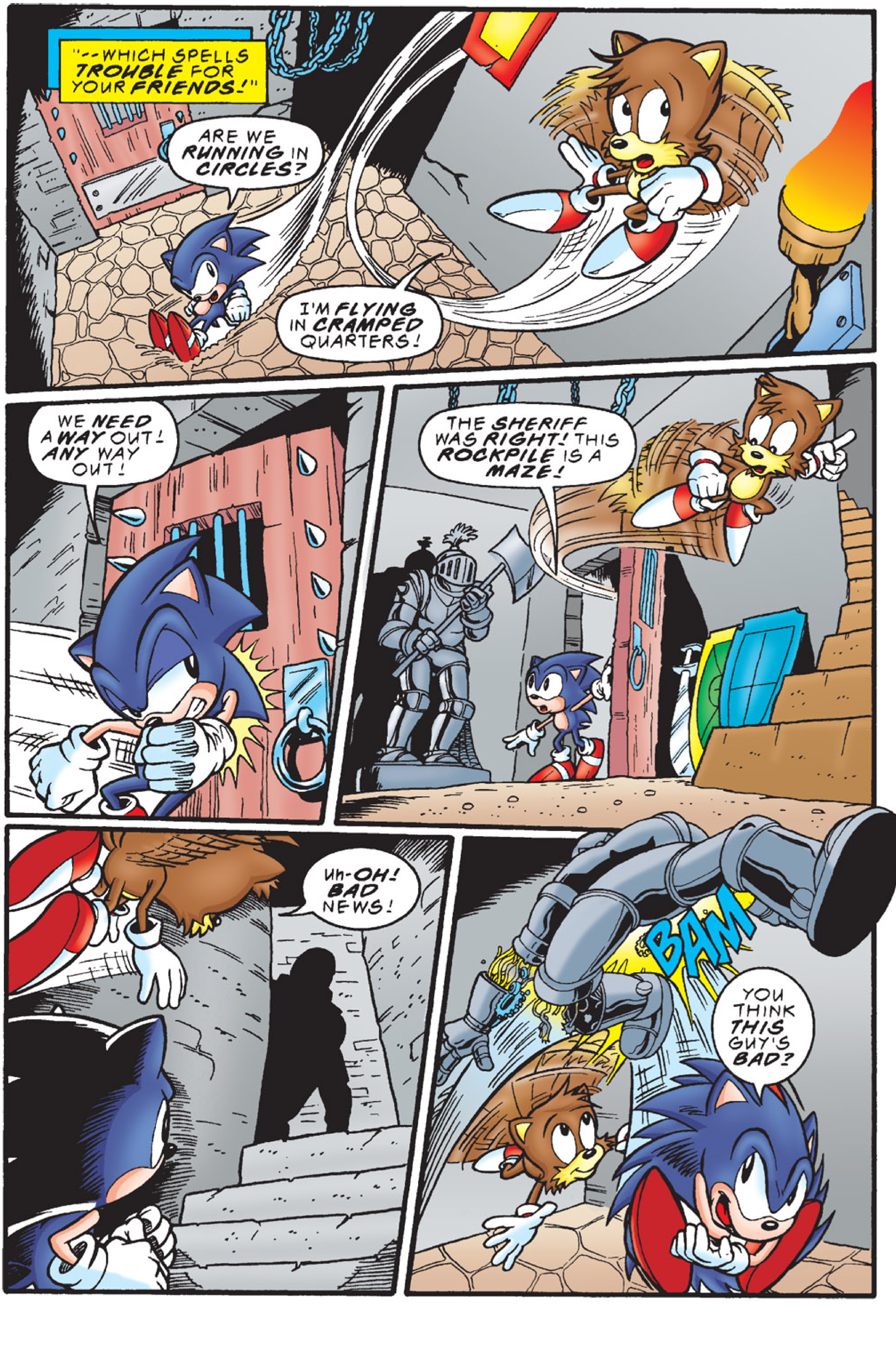
KRA-AASHH
LET'S BOOGIE TAILS, AND DON'T SPARE THE JUICE!
BUT NOW THAT WE'RE LOOSE--
"--WHICH WAY DO WE GO?"
HOLD, FRIEND KNUCKLES!
PRAY, LINGER WHILE I QUERY YON STRANGER!
DO I KNOW HIM? SOMETHING FAMILIAR--
STAND AND DELIVER, VARLET!

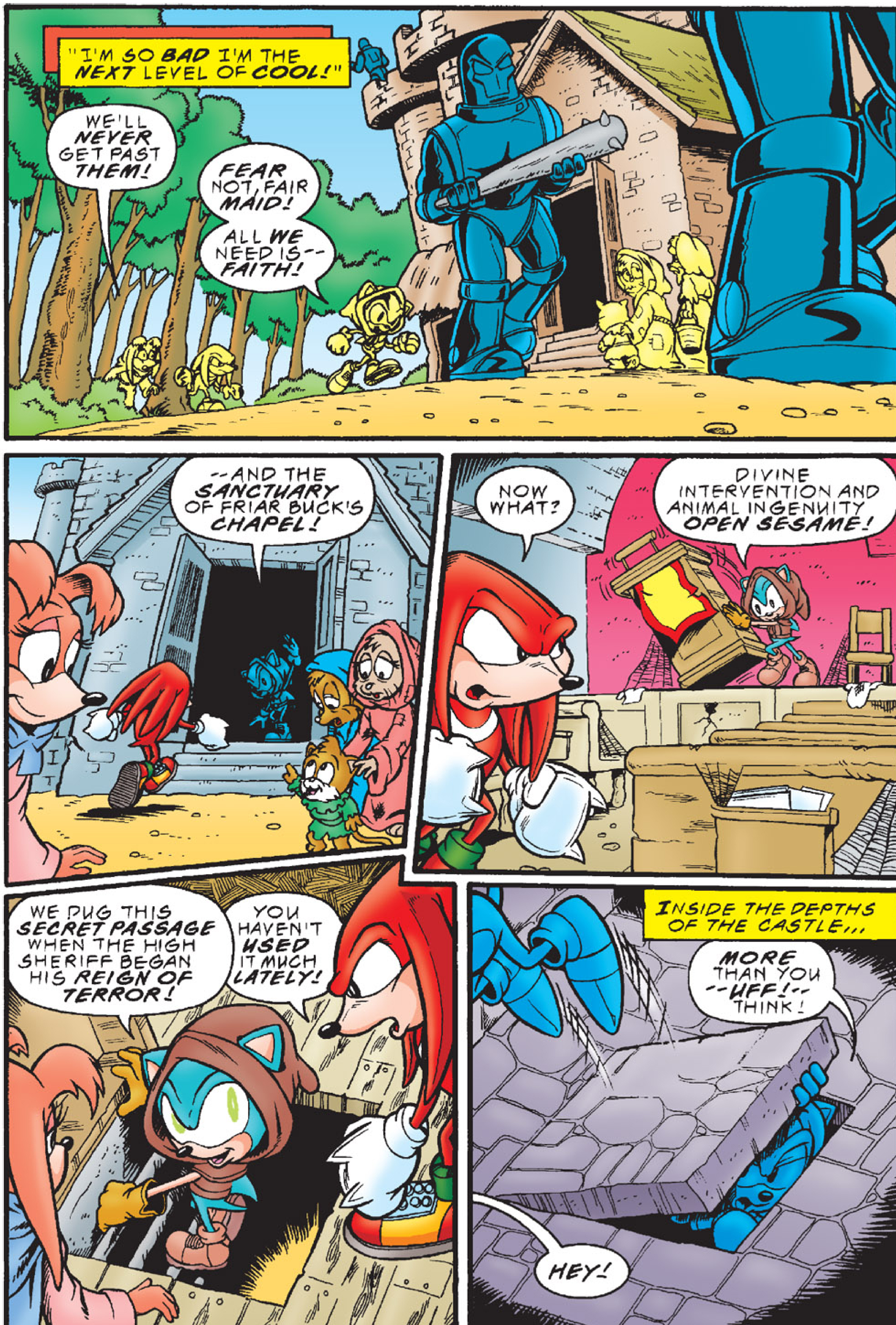


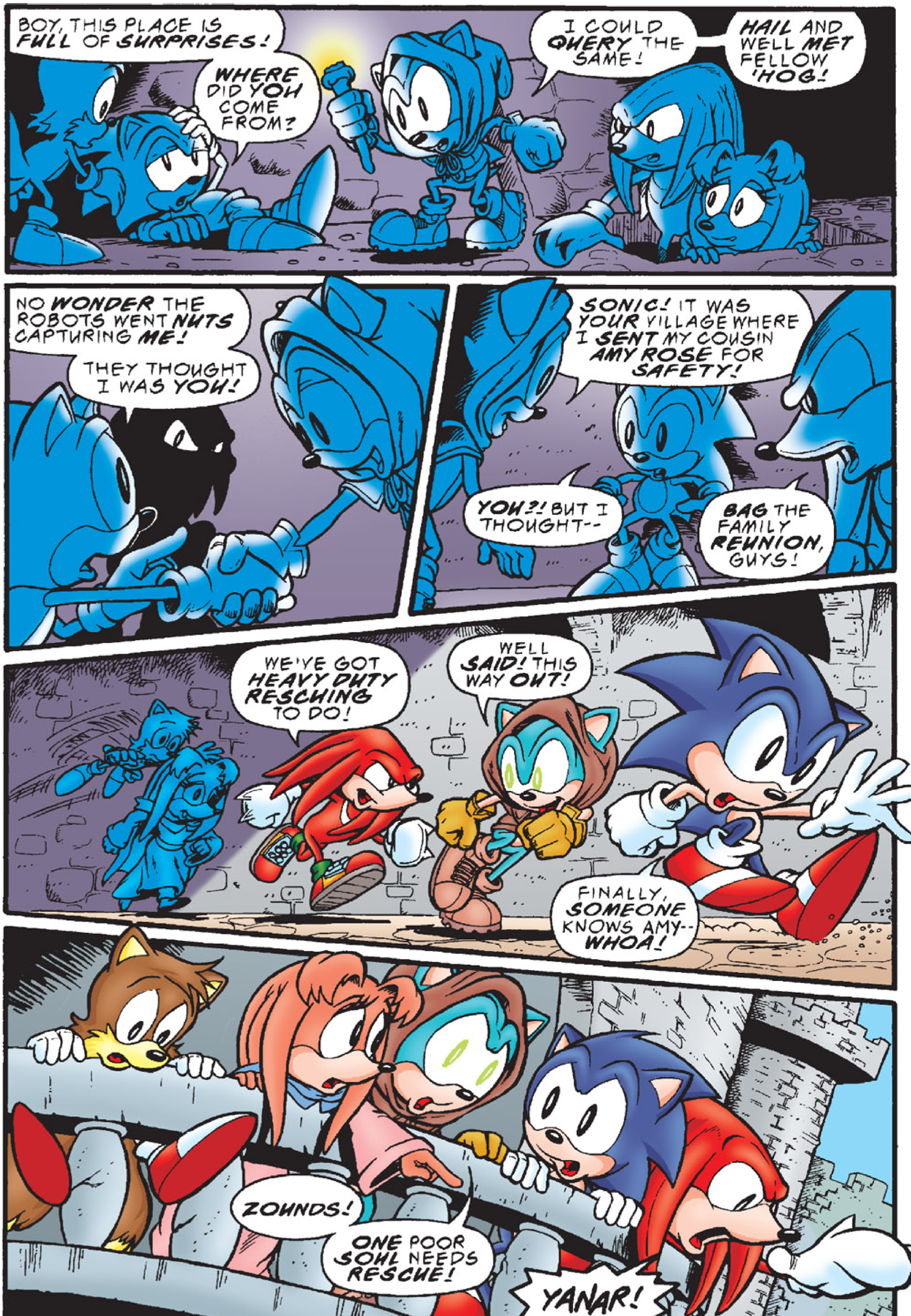
VARLET?! I'LL DELIVER ALL RIGHT!
BUT YOU NEED A STAMP!
OH! OF COURSE!
NOT HIM!
HER! MARI-AN OF THE LOST TRIBE!
CHARMED, I'M SURE!

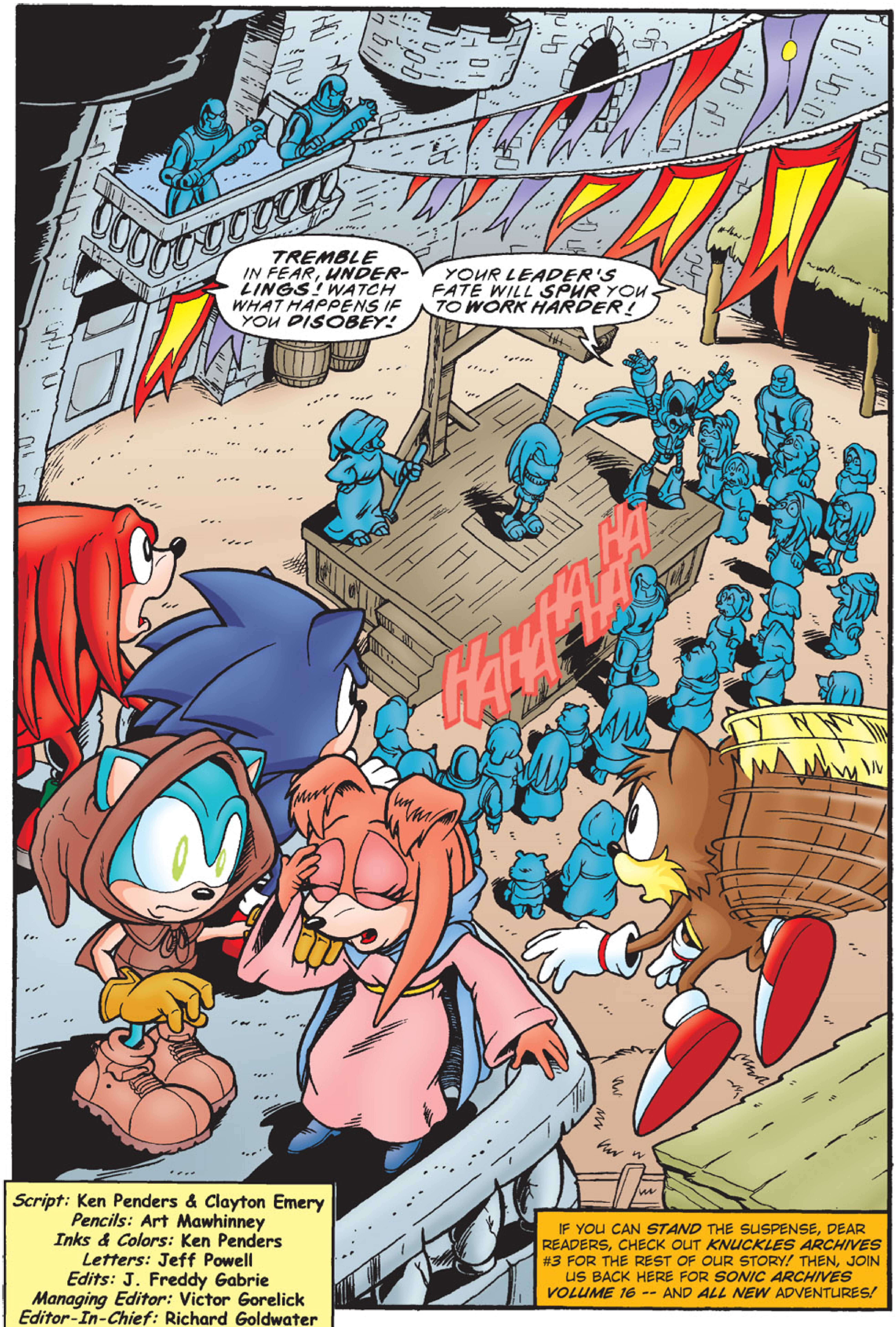


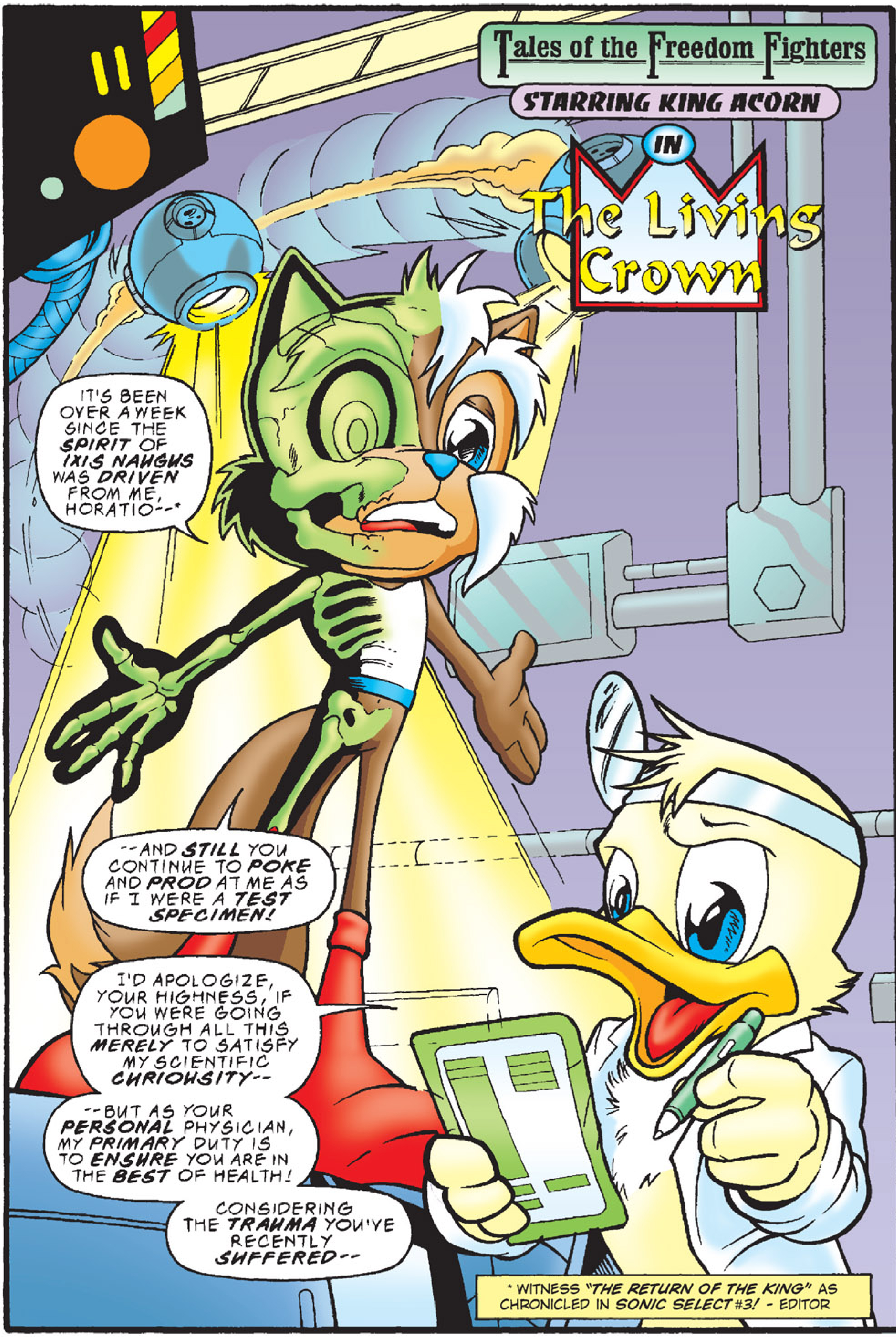
YOU'RE GENEROUS IN VICTORY, FAIR MAID!
AND-- FAIRER TO BEHOLD!
YOU'RE VERY-- Uhh--
SO ARE --Uhh--
HELLOO...
Oh, KNUCKLES! DID YOU FIND MY MISSING BROTHERS?
I GUESS THEY'RE HIDING, BECAUSE THE TRIBE'S BEEN CAPTURED!
AND IT GETS WORSE! OVER HERE! LOOK!
IT'S SONIC AND TAILS'S PLANE! BUT WHERE ARE THEY?
SONIC AND WHO?
FRIENDS OF MINE! IT'S A LONG STORY!
THEIR TRAIL POINTS TOWARDS --THE HIGH SHERIFF'S CASTLE!!--

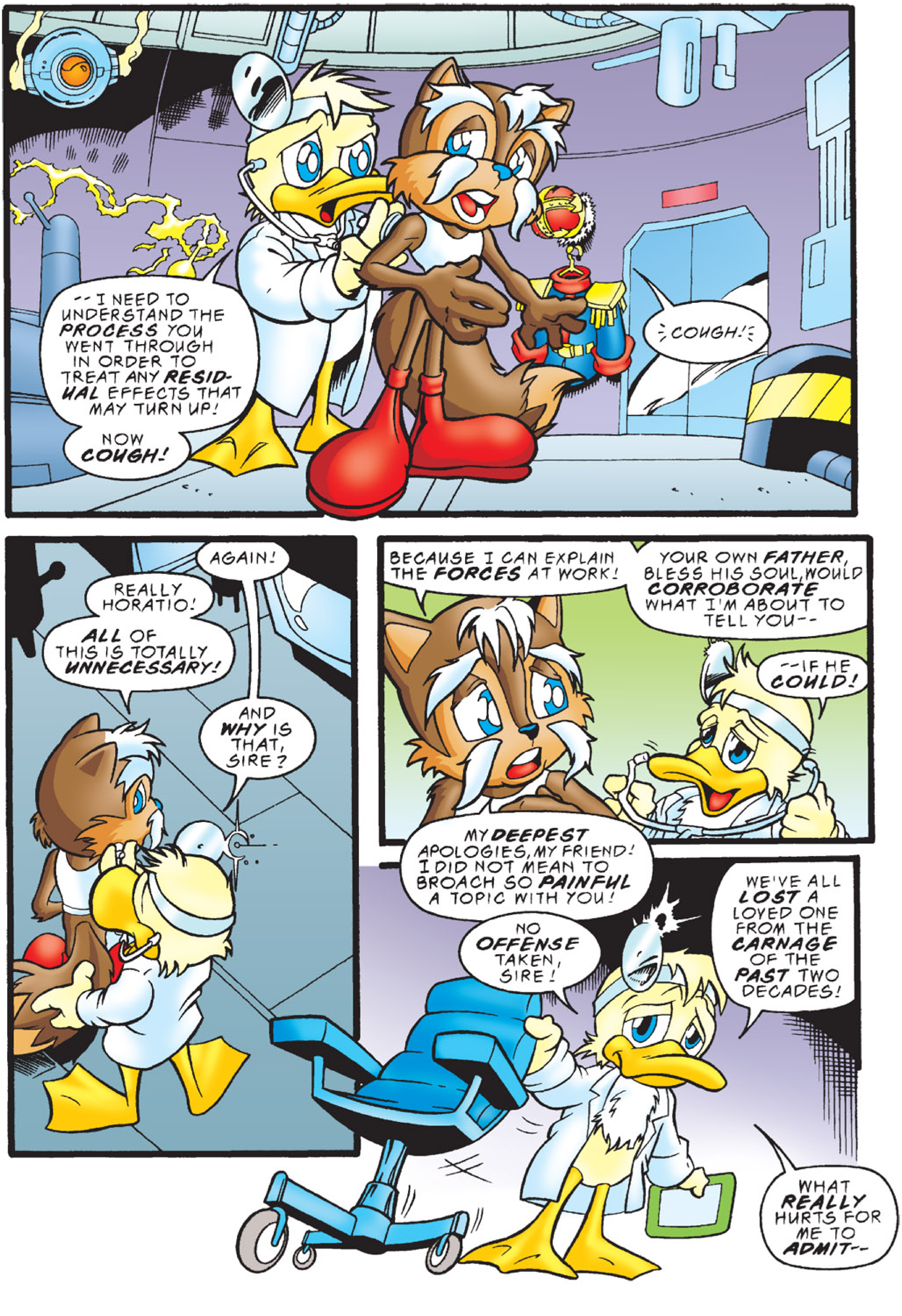

"--WHICH SPELLS TROUBLE FOR YOUR FRIENDS!"
ARE WE RUNNING IN CIRCLES?
I'M FLYING IN CRAMPED QUARTERS!
WE NEED A WAY OUT! ANY WAY OUT!
THE SHERIFF WAS RIGHT! THIS ROCKPILE IS A MAZE!
Uh-OH! BAD NEWS!
BAM
YOU THINK THIS GUY'S BAD?

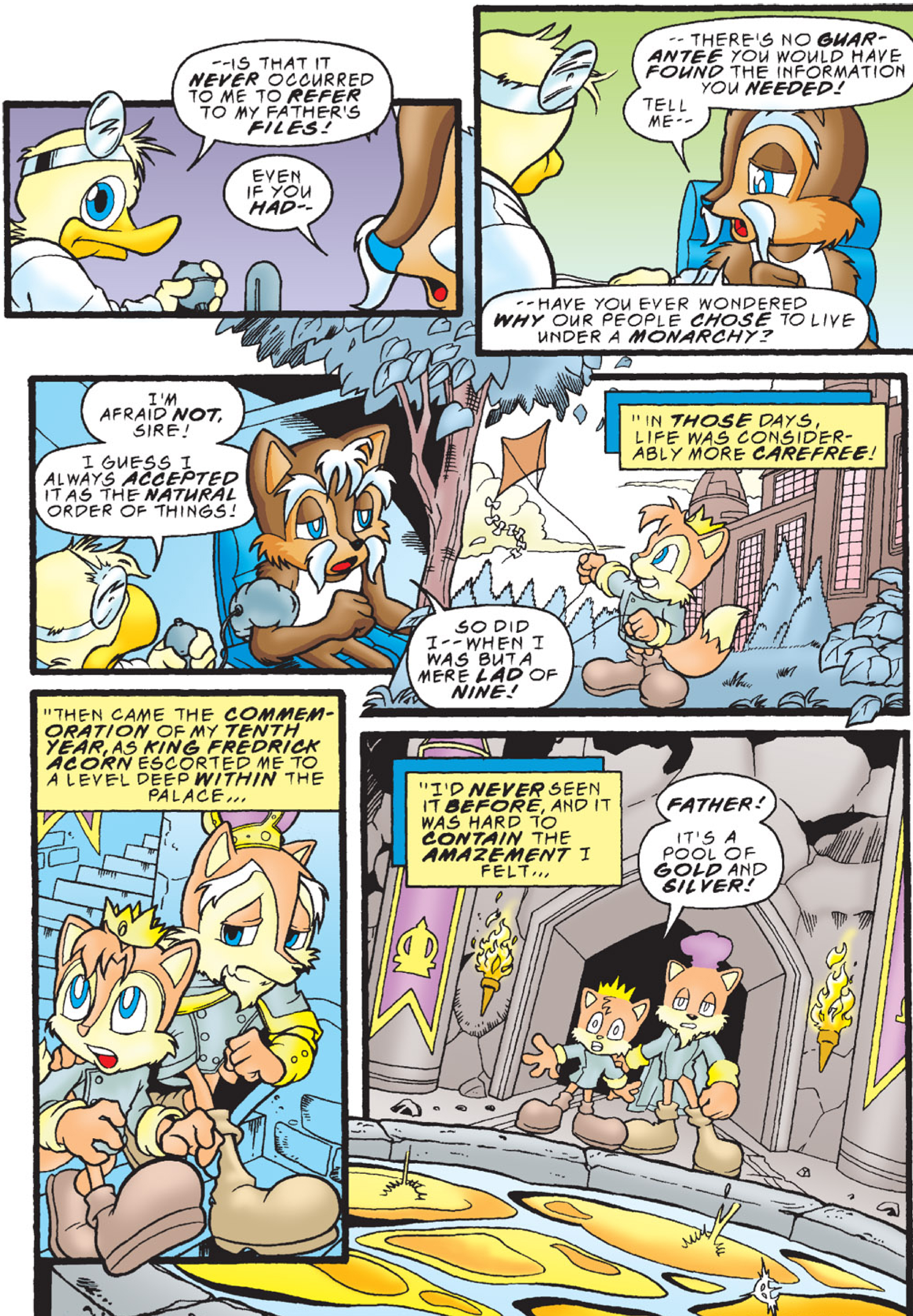

"I'M SO BAD I'M THE NEXT LEVEL OF COOL!"
WE'LL NEVER GET PAST THEM!
FEAR NOT, FAIR MAID!
ALL WE NEED IS--FAITH!
--AND THE SANCTUARY OF FRIAR BUCK'S CHAPEL!
NOW WHAT?
DIVINE INTERVENTION AND ANIMAL INGENUITY OPEN SESAME!
WE DUG THIS SECRET PASSAGE WHEN THE HIGH SHERIFF BEGAN HIS REIGN OF TERROR!
YOU HAVEN'T USED IT MUCH LATELY!
INSIDE THE DEPTHS OF THE CASTLE...
MORE THAN YOU --UFF!-- THINK!
HEY!

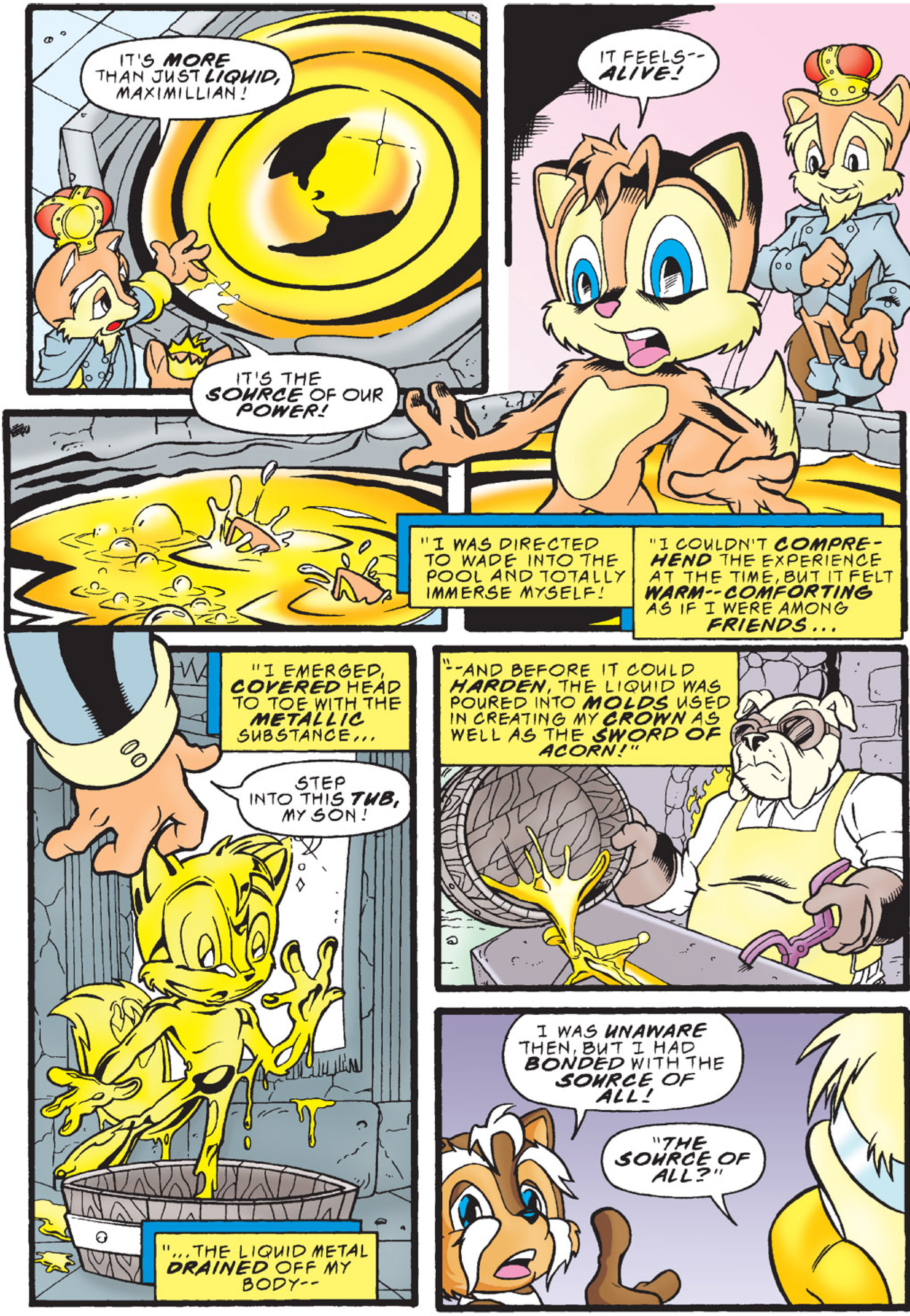

BOY, THIS PLACE IS FULL OF SURPRISES!
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
I COULD QUERY THE SAME!
HAIL AND WELL MET FELLOW 'HOG!
NO WONDER THE ROBOTS WENT NUTS CAPTURING ME!
THEY THOUGHT I WAS YOU!
SONIC! IT WAS YOUR VILLAGE WHERE I SENT MY COUSIN AMY ROSE FOR SAFETY!
YOU?!! BUT I THOUGHT--
BAG THE FAMILY REUNION, GUYS!
WE'VE GOT HEAVY DUTY RESCUING TO DO!
WELL SAID! THIS WAY OUT!
FINALLY, SOMEONE KNOWS AMY-- WHOA!
ZOUNDS!
ONE POOR SOUL NEEDS RESCUE!
YANAR!

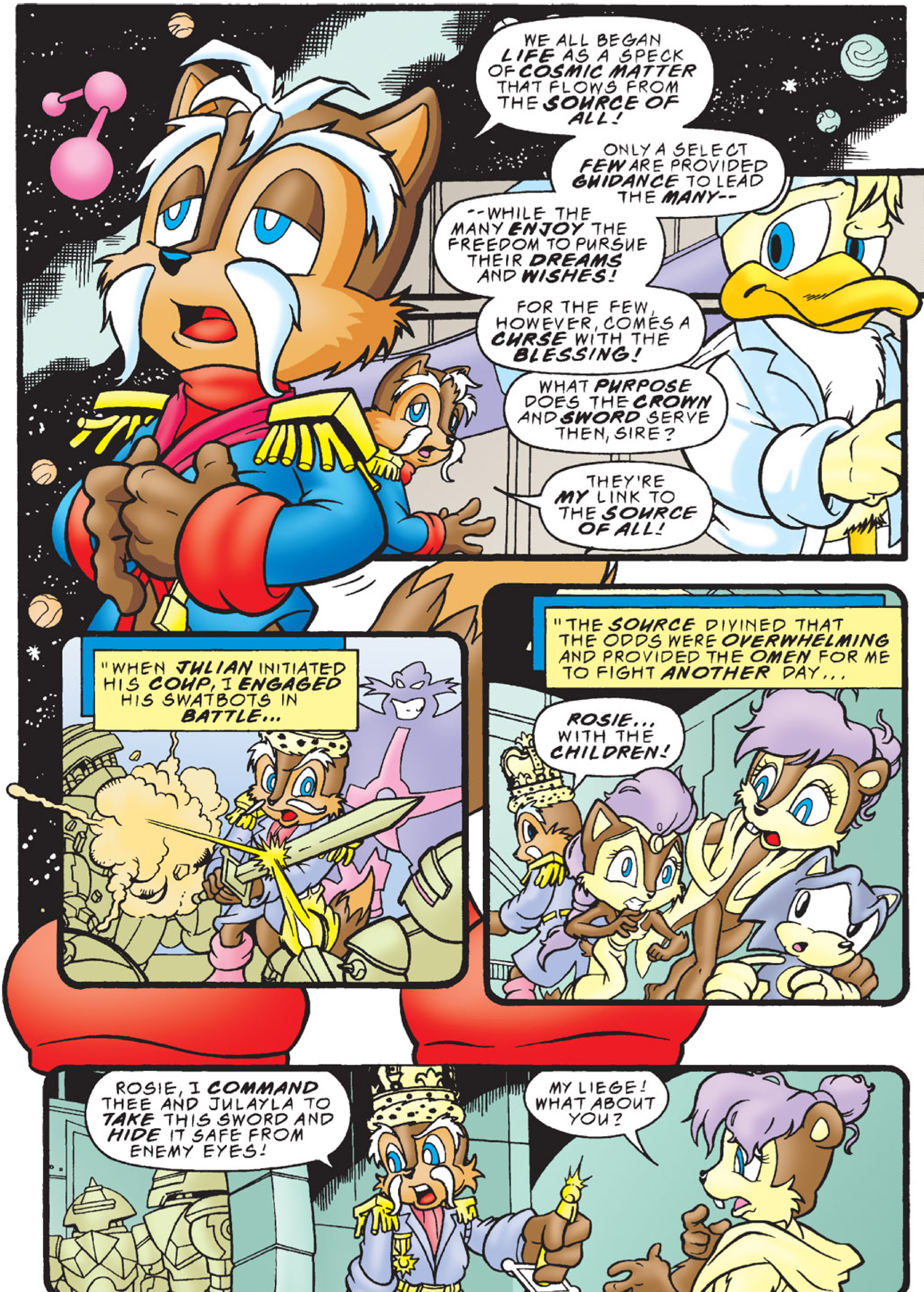

TREMBLE IN FEAR, UNDER-LINGS! WATCH WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DISOBEY!
YOUR LEADER'S FATE WILL SPUR YOU TO WORK HARDER!
HAHAHAHAHA
Script: Ken Penders & Clayton Emery
Pencils: Art Mawhinney
Inks & Colors: Ken Penders
Letters: Jeff Powell
Edits: J. Freddy Gabrie
Managing Editor: Victor Gorelick
Editor-In-Chief: Richard Goldwater
IF YOU CAN STAND THE SUSPENSE, DEAR READERS, CHECK OUT KNUCKLES ARCHIVES #3 FOR THE REST OF OUR STORY! THEN, JOIN US BACK HERE FOR SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME 16 -- AND ALL NEW ADVENTURES!

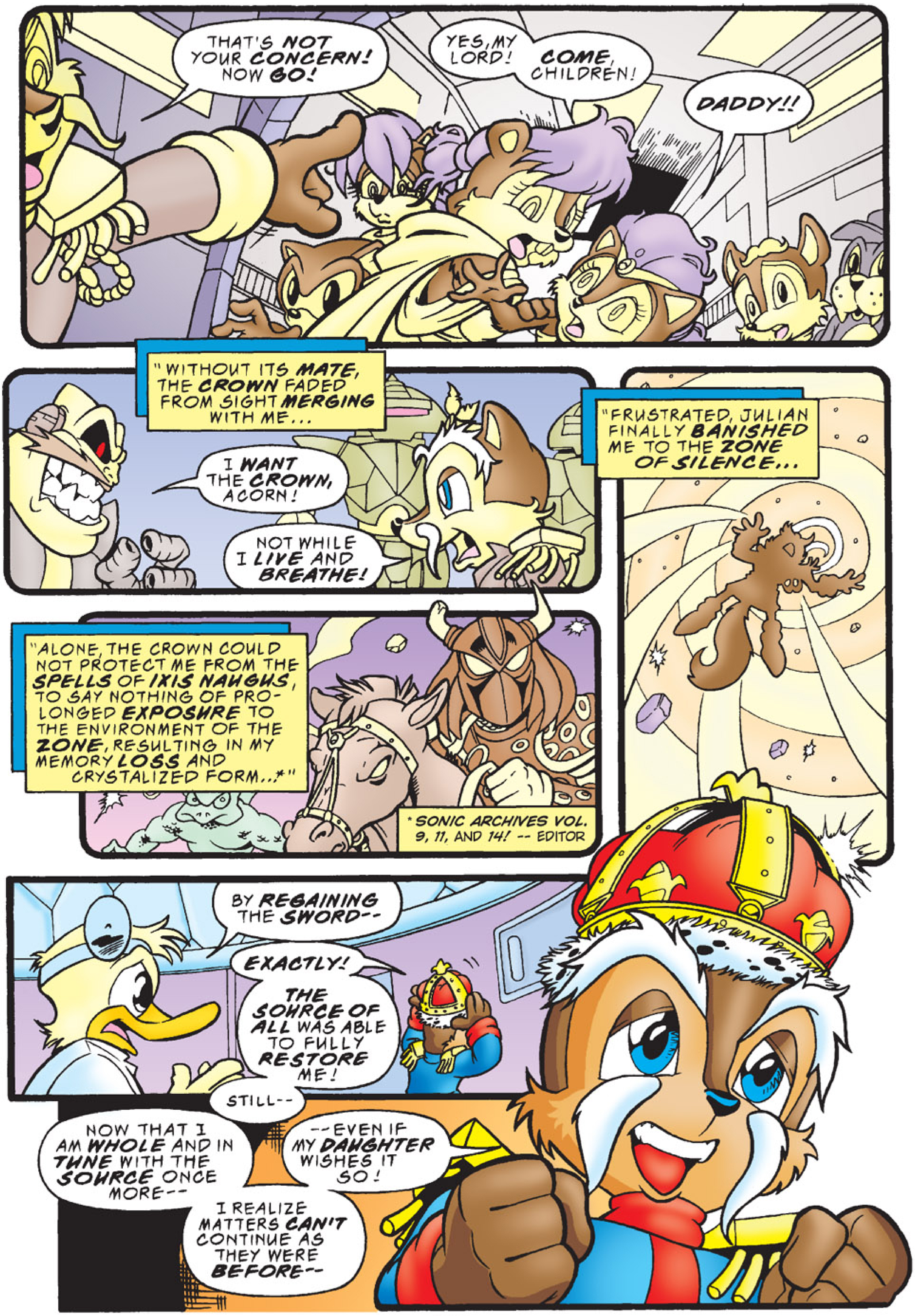

Tales of the Freedom Fighters
STARRING KING ACORN
IN
The Living Crown
IT'S BEEN OVER A WEEK SINCE THE SPIRIT OF IXIS NAUGUS WAS DRIVEN FROM ME, HORATIO--*
--AND STILL YOU CONTINUE TO POKE AND PROD AT ME AS IF I WERE A TEST SPECIMEN!
I'D APOLOGIZE, YOUR HIGHNESS, IF YOU WERE GOING THROUGH ALL THIS MERELY TO SATISFY MY SCIENTIFIC CURIOUSITY--
--BUT AS YOUR PERSONAL PHYSICIAN, MY PRIMARY DUTY IS TO ENSURE YOU ARE IN THE BEST OF HEALTH!
CONSIDERING THE TRAUMA YOU'VE RECENTLY SUFFERED--
* WITNESS "THE RETURN OF THE KING" AS CHRONICLED IN SONIC SELECT #3! - EDITOR


--I NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS YOU WENT THROUGH IN ORDER TO TREAT ANY RESIDUAL EFFECTS THAT MAY TURN UP!
NOW COUGH!
COUGH!
AGAIN!
REALLY HORATIO!
ALL OF THIS IS TOTALLY UNNECESSARY!
AND WHY IS THAT, SIRE?
BECAUSE I CAN EXPLAIN THE FORCES AT WORK!
YOUR OWN FATHER, BLESS HIS SOUL, WOULD CORROBORATE WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU--
--IF HE COULD!
MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES, MY FRIEND! I DID NOT MEAN TO BROACH SO PAINFUL A TOPIC WITH YOU!
NO OFFENSE TAKEN, SIRE!
WE'VE ALL LOST A LOVED ONE FROM THE CARNAGE OF THE PAST TWO DECADES!
WHAT REALLY HURTS FOR ME TO ADMIT--


--IS THAT IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME TO REFER TO MY FATHER'S FILES!
EVEN IF YOU HAD--
--THERE'S NO GUARANTEE YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND THE INFORMATION YOU NEEDED!
TELL ME--
--HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY OUR PEOPLE CHOSE TO LIVE UNDER A MONARCHY?
I'M AFRAID NOT, SIRE!
I GUESS I ALWAYS ACCEPTED IT AS THE NATURAL ORDER OF THINGS!
"IN THOSE DAYS, LIFE WAS CONSIDERABLY MORE CAREFREE!
SO DID I--WHEN I WAS BUT A MERE LAD OF NINE!
"THEN CAME THE COMMEMORATION OF MY TENTH YEAR, AS KING FREDRICK ACORN ESCORTED ME TO A LEVEL DEEP WITHIN THE PALACE...
"I'D NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE, AND IT WAS HARD TO CONTAIN THE AMAZEMENT I FELT...
FATHER!
IT'S A POOL OF GOLD AND SILVER!


IT'S MORE THAN JUST LIQUID, MAXIMILLIAN!
IT FEELS-- ALIVE!
IT'S THE SOURCE OF OUR POWER!
"I WAS DIRECTED TO WADE INTO THE POOL AND TOTALLY IMMERSE MYSELF!
"I COULDN'T COMPRE-HEND THE EXPERIENCE AT THE TIME, BUT IT FELT WARM--COMFORTING AS IF I WERE AMONG FRIENDS...
"I EMERGED, COVERED HEAD TO TOE WITH THE METALLIC SUBSTANCE...
STEP INTO THIS TUB, MY SON!
"...THE LIQUID METAL DRAINED OFF MY BODY--
"--AND BEFORE IT COULD HARDEN, THE LIQUID WAS POURED INTO MOLDS USED IN CREATING MY CROWN AS WELL AS THE SWORD OF ACORN!"
I WAS UNAWARE THEN, BUT I HAD BONDED WITH THE SOURCE OF ALL!
"THE SOURCE OF ALL?"


WE ALL BEGAN LIFE AS A SPECK OF COSMIC MATTER THAT FLOWS FROM THE SOURCE OF ALL!
ONLY A SELECT FEW ARE PROVIDED GUIDANCE TO LEAD THE MANY--
--WHILE THE MANY ENJOY THE FREEDOM TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS AND WISHES!
FOR THE FEW, HOWEVER, COMES A CURSE WITH THE BLESSING!
WHAT PURPOSE DOES THE CROWN AND SWORD SERVE THEN, SIRE?
THEY'RE MY LINK TO THE SOURCE OF ALL!
"WHEN JULIAN INITIATED HIS COUP, I ENGAGED HIS SWATBOTS IN BATTLE...
"THE SOURCE DIVINED THAT THE ODDS WERE OVERWHELMING AND PROVIDED THE OMEN FOR ME TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY...
ROSIE... WITH THE CHILDREN!
ROSIE, I COMMAND THEE AND JULAYLA TO TAKE THIS SWORD AND HIDE IT SAFE FROM ENEMY EYES!
MY LIEGE! WHAT ABOUT YOU?


THAT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN! NOW GO!
YES, MY LORD! COME, CHILDREN!
DADDY!!
"WITHOUT ITS MATE, THE CROWN FADED FROM SIGHT MERGING WITH ME...
I WANT THE CROWN, ACORN!
NOT WHILE I LIVE AND BREATHE!
"FRUSTRATED, JULIAN FINALLY BANISHED ME TO THE ZONE OF SILENCE...
"ALONE, THE CROWN COULD NOT PROTECT ME FROM THE SPELLS OF IXIS NAUGUS, TO SAY NOTHING OF PRO-LONGED EXPOSURE TO THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE ZONE, RESULTING IN MY MEMORY LOSS AND CRYSTALIZED FORM...*"
*SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 9, 11, AND 14! -- EDITOR
BY REGAINING THE SWORD--
EXACTLY!
THE SOURCE OF ALL WAS ABLE TO FULLY RESTORE ME!
STILL--
NOW THAT I AM WHOLE AND IN TUNE WITH THE SOURCE ONCE MORE--
I REALIZE MATTERS CAN'T CONTINUE AS THEY WERE BEFORE--
--EVEN IF MY DAUGHTER WISHES IT SO!

NEXT: SALLY